THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Saturday, 26th March 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at half-past eight of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Mr. Speaker, before we proceed with the routine work to be transacted in this House for to-day, may I know whether it is not the convention to declare a holiday after the celebration of an Anniversary or Hostel Day? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member is perhaps thinking of his college days."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, this hostel day which we celebrated yesterday is a new innovation which was the first to be inaugurated in the whole country. The Hon. the Chief Minister admitting this fact at the meeting held last night said it was a new idea followed by the Madras Legislature. If the Hon. the Leader of the House gives his consent, I suggest that we may break off now."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, I was not given sufficient notice. Anyway, I declare to-morrow as a holiday." (Laughter.)

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

R.A.F. bunk and wire-fencing Pattulo Road, Madras

* 1612 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the R.A.F. bunk and wire-fencing in Pattulo Road, Madras, handed over by the Defence Department to Madras Civil Supplies Department in 1949 has been sold away or is still retained by the Government; and

(*b*) if sold away, to whom and the amount realized?

THE HON SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) The R.A.F. bunk and wire-fencing in Pattulo Road, Madras, were not actually handed over to the Civil Supplies Department at the time when the site was occupied by the Civil Supplies Transport Unit, Madras. They were abandoned by the R.A.F. and when the Civil Supplies Department vacated the site the bunk and wire-fencing were left over as they were worthless and could not be made use of. The owner also appears not to have agreed to their removal.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

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Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the Defence Department sent a debit account to the Madras Government in 1948–49 and whether the same has been accepted by the Madras Government? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir. Some huts and temporary constructions were put up by the Civil Supplies Transport Unit and they were disposed of in public auction through the agency of Messrs. Murray & Co., which fetched an amount of Rs. 12,895. This amount has been credited to the Government under the appropriate head."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, I assert to say that the information supplied to the Hon. Minister by the department concerned is incorrect. So, will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to go into the relevant records and take action against the officer who has given this wrong information to him if I prove that a debit account has been received by the Madras Government from the Central Government? May I have an assurance from the Hon. Minister that he will take proper action against the officer or officers concerned who have given him such incorrect information if I prove from the records that the Hon. Minister has been given wrong information? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I am unable to understand how I have given the wrong information and to which information the hon. Member is referring. Sir, I am also unable to understand what exactly is the charge that the hon. Member is laying against the officer or officers concerned."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, the matter is this. In the course of his answer, the Hon. Minister said that the R.A.F. bunk and wire-fencing were left over. I wish to tell the Hon. Minister that they were not left over. They were handed over to the Madras Government and a debit account has also been sent to this Government by the Central Government. By accepting this debit account, our State Exchequer had to incur a loss. As far as the missing of these things are concerned, the information given by the department is false. That is what I wish to submit, Sir."

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, the hon. Member's statement is not correct."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, I may submit that I have requested the Hon. Minister to give me an assurance that he is prepared to go into the relevant records and take action if it is proved that the information given to him is wrong."

District Munsif's Court for Pattambi

* 1615 *Q.*—Sri V. SANKARANARAYANA MENON : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to establish a new District Munsif's Court in South Malabar;